

March 2, 2026

The Honorable Mike Thompson, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs
300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 144-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Thompson:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 503 by Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 503 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 503 would remove the prohibition against possessing any device or attachment designed, used, or intended for use in suppressing the report of any firearm from the definition of criminal use of weapons. The bill would also remove the prohibition against carrying a shotgun with a barrel less than 18 inches in length from the definition of criminal carrying of a weapon.

The Sentencing Commission estimates that enactment of SB 503 would result in a decrease of zero to one adult prison bed needed by the end of FY 2027, depending on the scenario. The scenarios project two fewer prison admissions if one person per year would have been convicted under the affected provisions and sentenced to prison, one fewer admission if two persons per year would have been convicted, and no change in admissions if three persons per year would have been convicted. By the end of FY 2036, zero to one fewer beds would be needed, depending on the scenario. The current estimated available bed capacity is 9,924 for males and 968 for females. Based upon the Commission's most recent ten-year projection contained in its *FY 2026 Adult Inmate Prison Population Projections report*, it is estimated that the year-end population will total 9,176 male and 924 female inmates in FY 2026 and 9,485 male and 953 female inmates in FY 2027.

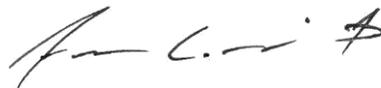
The Department of Corrections indicates that enactment of the bill would decrease State General Fund expenditures by \$5,783 in FY 2027 and \$5,985 in FY 2028, assuming a bed impact of one fewer inmate. These savings represent the marginal cost of housing one inmate, which

accounts for variable costs that fluctuate with population changes, such as food service and incentive pay, but excludes administrative overhead and housing unit staffing costs.

The Office of Judicial Administration indicates enactment of the bill could decrease the number of cases filed in district courts because it removes certain criminal prohibitions. This could decrease the time spent by district court judicial and nonjudicial personnel in processing, researching, and hearing cases. Since these prohibitions carried felony penalties, there could also be less supervision of offenders required of court services officers, along with a decrease in the collection of supervision fees, docket fees, and fines that would otherwise have been deposited into the State General Fund. However, the Office indicates a precise fiscal effect cannot be determined until the Judicial Branch has had an opportunity to operate under the bill's provisions. The Board of Indigents' Defense Services indicates enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect on its operations. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 503 is not reflected in *The FY 2027 Governor's Budget Report*.

The League of Kansas Municipalities indicates enactment of the bill would increase expenditures for city governments, as municipalities and law enforcement officers would need to develop new procedures and receive additional training related to the changes in law. The Kansas Association of Counties indicates enactment of the bill would decrease enforcement expenditures for county governments; however, neither organization was able to provide a precise estimate of the fiscal effect on local governments.

Sincerely,



Adam C. Proffitt
Director of the Budget

cc: Ann Sagan, Board of Indigents Defense Services
Jennifer King, Department of Corrections
Trisha Morrow, Judiciary
Scott Schultz, Kansas Sentencing Commission
Bruce Chladny, Kansas Association of Counties
Wendi Stark, League of Kansas Municipalities